WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.   A method for producing a preview image for printing an input digital image having a first aspect ratio, comprising

     a)   providing a print format having a second aspect ratio different from the first aspect ratio;

     b)   calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for the print format; and

     c)   displaying the printable image portion of the digital image for preview prior to printing an image print at the print format.

2.   The method of claim 1, wherein calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for the print format includes calculating the first aspect ratio of the input digital image.

3.   The method of claim 1, wherein calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for the print format includes calculating the second aspect ratio of the print format.

4.   The method of claim 1, wherein calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for the print format includes calculating the maximum printable image portion of the input digital image for the print format.

5.   The method of claim 1, wherein calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for the print format includes calculating one or more unprintable image portions in the input digital image.

6.   The method of claim 1, wherein the calculated printable image portion of the input digital image is smaller than the input digital image.

7.   The method of claim 1, wherein the location of the printable image portion of the input digital image is selectable within the input digital image for preview prior to printing the image print at the print format.

8.   The method of claim 1, wherein the default location of the calculated maximum printable image portion of the input digital image aligns with the input digital image at the upper left corner of the input digital image.

9.   The method of claim 1 further comprising

   d)   providing the printable image portion of the input digital image to a digital printer; and

   e)   printing the image print at the print format by the digital printer.

10.   A method for producing a preview image for printing an image print at one of a plurality of print formats in response to an input digital image, comprising

   a)   providing a plurality of print formats for printing the input digital image;

   b)   calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for each print format;

   c)   determining a common safe preview portion of the digital image for all print formats; and

   d)   displaying the common safe preview portion of the digital image for preview prior to printing the image print.

11.   The method of claim 10, wherein calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for each print format includes calculating the aspect ratio of the input digital image.

12.   The method of claim 10, wherein calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for each print format includes calculating the aspect ratio for each of the provided print formats.

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13.   The method of claim 10, wherein calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for each print format includes calculating the maximum printable image portion of the input digital image for the print format.

14.   The method of claim 10, wherein determining a common safe preview portion of the digital image for all print formats includes calculating the overlapping area of the maximum printable image portions of the digital image for all print formats.

15.   The method of claim 10, wherein the common safe preview portion of the input digital image is smaller than the input digital image.

16.   The method of claim 10, wherein the location of the common safe preview portion of the input digital image is selectable within the input digital image for preview prior to printing the image print at the print format.

17.   The method of claim 10, where in the default location of the common safe preview portion of the input digital image is set at the upper left corner of the input digital image.

18.   The method of claim 10 further comprising
    e)   selecting one of the plurality of print formats;
    f)   providing the printable image portion of the input digital image for the selected print format to a digital printer; and
    g)   printing the image print at the selected print format by the digital printer.

19.   A method for producing a preview image for printing an input digital image having an image border, comprising
    a)   providing a print format for printing the input digital image;
    b)   selecting an image border to be printed with the input digital image at the print format;
    c)   calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for the selected image border and the print format; and

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d)   displaying the printable portion of the input digital image and the image border for preview prior to printing an image print having the image border at the print format.

20.   The method of claim 19 further comprising

e)   selecting a print format;

f)   providing the printable image portion of the input digital image for the selected print format to a digital printer; and

g)   printing the image print at the selected print format by the digital printer.

21.   The method of claim 19, wherein calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for the selected image border and the print format includes calculating an effective aspect ratio of the visible image area of the input digital image within the selected image border at the print format.

22.   A method for producing a preview image for printing an input digital image having an image border, comprising

a)   providing a plurality of print formats for printing the input digital image;

b)   selecting an image border to be printed with the input digital image;

c)   calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for the selected image border at each the print format;

d)   determining the common safe preview portion of the input digital image for the selected image border for all the print formats; and

e)   displaying the common safe preview portion of the digital image for preview prior to printing an image print at the print format.

23.   The method of claim 22 further comprising

f)   selecting one of the plurality print formats;

g)   providing the printable image portion of the input digital image for the selected print format to a digital printer; and

h)   printing the image print at the selected print format by the digital printer.

24. The method of claim 22, wherein calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for the selected image border at each print format includes calculating an effective aspect ratio of the visible image area of the input digital image within the selected image border at each print format.

25. A method for producing a preview image for producing an output image media in one of a plurality of image formats in response to an input digital image, comprising

a) providing a plurality of image formats for producing the output image media;

b) calculating a viewable image portion of the input digital image for each image format on the output image media;

c) determining a common safe preview portion of the digital image for all image formats on the output image media; and

d) displaying the common safe preview portion of the digital image for preview prior to producing the output image media.

26. A system for producing a preview image for printing an image print at a plurality of print formats in response to an input digital image, comprising

a) one or more digital printers capable of printing the input digital image at a plurality of print formats;

b) a computer apparatus for calculating a printable image portion of the input digital image for each print format and determining a common safe preview portion of the digital image for all print formats; and

c) a display device adapted to display the common safe preview portion of the digital image for preview prior to printing an image print at one of the print formats.

27. The system of claim 26, wherein the computer apparatus provides the printable image portion of the input digital image for the selected print format to the digital printer so that the image print can be printed by the digital printer at the print format.

28. The method of claim 27, further comprising

d)   a digital printer for printing the image print at a selected print format based on the common safe preview portion of the digital image.